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Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Letter dated 30 June 2000 from the Chairman of the Second Committee addressed to the President of the General Assembly

With reference to your letter of 28 April 2000 requesting me to undertake, on your behalf, consultations with Member States on the date, modalities, nature of the outcome and focus of the discussions of the second high-level dialogue on the theme of "Responding to globalization: facilitating the integration of developing countries into the world economy in the twenty-first century", I have the honour to report to you hereby the results of the consultations held on 9 June 2000.

In discussing their options as regards the four components — date, modalities, nature of the outcome and focus of the discussions — delegations took account of the experience of the first high-level dialogue held in September 1998, as well as the recent experience of preparing and organizing high-level events, such as the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council, the Millennium Assembly, and others.

With respect to the date, delegations felt that the two-day high-level dialogue should be held, as in 1998, immediately before the commencement of the general debate at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

With regard to the modalities, delegations considered that, in order to stimulate high-level interest and ensure interactive dialogue, a combination of plenary meetings, ministerial round tables and informal panels would be the best approach to follow. Such a format would allow delegations to make brief formal statements at the plenary meetings, and at the same time facilitate productive interactive discussions, as well as an infusion of views and analyses from non-governmental panellists. The ministerial round tables would be open for members of delegations to attend.

With regard to the outcome, it was decided that, taking into account time constraints of a two-day event, a President's summary presented at the closure of the dialogue would be the most appropriate outcome. This summary may, at a later

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stage, be expanded to include such material as, for instance, summaries of ministerial round tables and informal panels, and any concluding observations the President may wish to present. This overall summary could be presented as a report of the President to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

Delegations agreed that taking into account the deliberations of the Millennium Summit, the high-level segments of the substantive sessions of 2000 and 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, the financing for development process and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the focus of the discussions, within the overall theme of the dialogue, should be on the following sub-themes:

- Promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy and generating new public and private financial resources to complement development efforts;
- Enhancing the integration of developing countries in the emerging global information network, facilitating access for developing countries to information and communication technology.

I ask that you have the present letter distributed as a document of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly in connection with agenda item 99 (g).

(*Signed*) Roble **Olhaye**
Chairman of the Second Committee